GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:609
ANSWERED ON:22.11.2000
ESTABLISHMENT OF GOVERNMENT IN AFGHANISTAN
GANGASANDRA SIDDAPPA BASAVARAJ

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has shown its willingness to help establish a Government in Afghanistan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the trade in narcotics coupled with acts of terrorism is causing much concern to USA and Russia who are becoming victims of Taliban`s activities;

(d) if so, whether all these countries are looking forward to India for guidance to fight terrorism; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA)

(a - b) India recognises and supports the Government of President Burhanuddin Rabbani as the legitimate Government of Afghanistan.

(c to e) The international community is deeply concerned at the Taliban`s extremist and violent ideologies and their nexus with international terrorism. The Taliban have strong ties with Pakistani terrorist groups and Pakistan`s state apparatus which is promoting cross-border terrorism in Jammu & Kashmir and elsewhere in India.The open sympathy shown by the Taliban to the hijackers of IC-814 is also a matter of record. The establishment of the Indo-Russian Joint Working Group on Afghanistan and the Indo-US Joint Working Group on Counter Terrorism are manifestations of the determination of the international community to combat international terrorism.